CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method for automatically controlling the movements of at least one camera or camera lens to change the prospective of a scene viewed by said at least one camera or camera lens, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting at least one known sequence of camera parametrics from a plurality of known sequences of camera parametrics, wherein said parametrics provide instruction to control movement of said at least one camera or camera lens;

determining criteria for executing said selected known sequence of camera parametrics, wherein said criteria are responsive to high level parameters contained in said scene; and

adjusting movement of said at least one camera or camera lens in response to said determined criteria.

- 2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said at least one known sequence of camera parametrics is selected from the group of camera movements including scanning, zooming, tilting, orientating, panning, fading, zoom-and- pull-back, fade-in, fade-out.
- 3. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said high level parameters include the number of objects within said scene.



- 4. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said high level parameters include the position of objects within said scene.
- The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said high level parameters include speech recognition of objects within said scene.
- 6. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said high level parameters include audio inputs of objects within said scene.
- 7. An apparatus for automatically controlling the movements of at least one camera or camera lens to change the prospective of a scene viewed by said at least one camera or camera lens, said apparatus comprising:

a processor operative to:

receive a first input for selecting at least one known sequence of camera parametrics from a plurality of known sequences of camera parametrics, wherein said parametrics provide instruction to control movement of said at least one camera or camera lens;

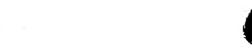
receive a second input consisting of high level parameters contained in said scene;

determine criteria for executing said selected known sequence of camera parametrics, wherein said criteria are responsive to said high level parameters; and

means for adjusting movement of said at least one camera or camera lens in response to said determined criteria.

- 8. The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said first input is selected from the group of camera movements including scanning, zooming, tilting, orientating, panning, fading, zooming, zoom-and-pull-back, fade-in, fade-out.
- 9. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said high level parameters include the number of objects within said scene.
- 10. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said high level parameters include the position of objects within said scene.
- 11. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said high level parameters include speech recognition of objects within said scene.
- 12. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said high level parameters include audio inputs of objects within said scene.
- 13. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said means for adjusting said camera movement includes outputting said criteria over a serial connection.





- 14. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said means for adjusting said camera movement includes outputting said criteria over a parallel connection.
- 15. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said means for adjusting said camera movement includes outputting said criteria over a network.
- 16. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said camera movement is accomplished electronically.
- 17. The apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said camera movement is accomplished mechanically.